CLAIMS

I claim:

1. 1. A network message storage and delivery system, comprising:

2.   means for receiving an incoming call and for detecting an address signal

3. associated with said incoming call, said address signal associated with a user of said

4. message storage and delivery system;

5.   means for receiving a message accompanied with said address signal, said

6. message being in a first file format;

7.   means for converting said message from said first file format to a second file

8. format;

9.   means for storing said message in said second file format in a storage area;

10.   means for receiving a request from said user for said message and for

11. retrieving said message from said storage area; and

12.   means for transmitting a least a portion of said message in said second file

13. format to said user over a transmission link;

14.   wherein said portion of said message is transmitted to said user over the

15. network, said second file format is a mixed media page layout language and

16. comprises a standard generalized mark-up language.

1   2.   A network message storage and delivery system, comprising:

2   means for receiving an incoming call and for detecting an address signal

3   associated with said incoming call, said address signal associated with a user of said

4   message storage and delivery system;

5   means for receiving a message accompanied with said address signal, said

6   message being in a first file format;

7   means for converting said message from said first file format to a second file

8   format;

9   means for storing said message in said second file format in a storage area;

10   means for receiving a request from said user for said message and for

11   retrieving said message from said storage area; and

12   means for transmitting a least a portion of said message in said second file

13   format to said user over a transmission link;

14   wherein said portion of said message is transmitted to said user over the

15   network, said second file format is a mixed media page layout language, and said

16   network comprises the Internet.

1   3.   A network message storage and delivery system, comprising:

2   a central processor for receiving an incoming call, for detecting an address

3   signal on said incoming call, for detecting a message on said incoming call, and for

4   placing said message in a storage area, said address signal being associated with a

5   user of said network message storage and delivery system;

6   a network server for receiving said message from said storage area, for

7   converting said message into a mixed media page layout language, and for placing

8   said message in said storage area;

9   wherein when said network server receives a request from said user over said

10   network, said network server transmits at least a portion of said message over said

11   network to said user over a transmission link and wherein said network comprises the

12   Internet and said network server comprises an Internet server.

1   4.   A method of storing and delivering a message for a user, comprising

2   the steps of:

3   receiving an incoming call and detecting an address signal associated with said

4   incoming call, said address signal associated with a user;

5   receiving a message associated with said address signal, said message being in

6   a first file format;

7   converting said message from said first file format to a second file format;

8   storing said message in said second file format in a storage area;

9   receiving a request from said user for said message and retrieving said

10   message from said storage area; and

11   transmitting at least a portion of said message in said second file format to said

12   user over a transmission link;

13   wherein said step of transmitting occurs over a network, said step of

14   converting said message converts said message into a mixed media page layout

15   language, and said step of transmitting occurs over the Internet.

1   5.   A system for receiving and storing a message signal directed to an

2   intended recipient and for relaying the message signal to a computer, comprising:

3   a telephone interface for receiving an incoming call from a public switched

4   telephone network, the incoming call including the message signal;

5   a central processor for receiving the message signal from the telephone

6   interface and for storing the message signal in a storage medium;

7   a hyper-text transfer protocol deamon for receiving a request for the message

8   signal from the computer and for forwarding the request to a network server, the

9   request from the computer being formatted in a hyper-text transfer protocol; and

10   the network server, in response to receiving the request from the hyper-text

11   transfer protocol deamon, forwarding at least a part of the message signal to the

12   hyper-text transfer protocol deamon;

13   wherein the hyper-text transfer protocol deamon transmits at least part of the

14   message signal to the computer.

1   6.   The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the network server converts

2   the message signal from a first file format into a standard generalized mark-up

3   language.

1   7.   The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the central processor

2   converts the message signal from a first file format into a standard generalized mark-

3   up language.

1   8.   The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the hyper-text transfer

2   protocol deamon transmits the message in a hyper-text mark-up language.

1   9.   The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the hyper-text transfer

2   protocol deamon transmits the message in a hand-held device mark-up language.

1   10.   The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the hyper-text transfer

2   protocol deamon transmits the message in an extensible mark-up language.

1   11.   The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the hyper-text transfer

2   protocol deamon transmits the message in a virtual reality mark-up language.

1   12.   The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the hyper-text transfer

2   protocol deamon receives the request from the computer through the Internet.

1   13.   The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the hyper-text transfer

2   protocol deamon receives the request from the computer through an intranet.

1   14.   The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the telephone interface

2   receives an address signal as part of the incoming call and the central processor stores

3   the message signal in a directory associated with that address signal.

1   15.   The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the message signal

2   comprises a facsimile transmission.

1   16.   The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the message signal

2   comprises a voice message.

1   17.   The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the message signal

2   comprises a data file.

1   18.   The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the request sent from the

2   computer to the hyper-text transfer protocol deamon comprises a search query

3   specifying at least one search parameter for a desired search, the hyper-text transfer

4   protocol deamon transfers the search query to the network server, the network server

5   performs the desired search by identifying all message signals satisfying the at least

6   one search parameter, and the hyper-text transfer protocol deamon sends results of the

7   desired search to the computer.

1   19.   The system as set forth in claim 18, wherein the central processor stores

2   a data entry for each message signal.

1   20.   The system as set forth in claim 19, wherein the data entry comprises a

2   plurality of fields for identifying the message signal.

1   21.   The system as set forth in claim 19, wherein the central processor stores

2   the data entry in a relational database.

1   22.   The system as set forth in claim 18, wherein the central processor

2   returns a listing of all message signals contained within the desired search to the

3   hyper-text transfer protocol deamon and the hyper-text transfer protocol deamon

4   sends the list to the computer.

1   23.   A method for receiving and storing a message signal directed to an

2   intended recipient and for relaying the message signal to a computer, comprising the

3   steps of:

4   receiving an incoming call from a public switched telephone network, the

5   incoming call including the message signal;

6   storing the message signal in a storage medium;

7   receiving, at a hyper-text transfer protocol deamon, a request for the message

8   signal from the computer and forwarding the request to a network server;

9   forwarding at least a part of the message signal from the network server to the

10   hyper-text transfer protocol deamon; and

11   transmitting at least part of the message signal from the hyper-text transfer

12   protocol deamon to the computer.

1   24.   The method as set forth in claim 23, further comprising a step of

2   converting the request from a first file format into a standard generalized mark-up

3   language.

1   25.   The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the

2   request comprises a step of receiving the request in a standard generalized mark-up

3   language.

1   26.   The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the

2   request comprises a step of receiving the request in a hyper-text mark-up language.

1   27.   The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the

2   request comprises a step of receiving the request in a hand-held mark-up language.

1   28.   The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the

2   request comprises a step of receiving the request in an extensible mark-up language.

1   29.   The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the

2   request comprises a step of receiving the request in a virtual reality mark-up language.

1   30.   The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the

2   call comprises a step of receiving a facsimile transmission..

1   31.   The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the

2   call comprises a step of receiving a voice message.

1   32.   The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the

2   call comprises a step of receiving a data file.

1   33.   The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the

2   request comprises a step of receiving the request through the Internet.

1   34.   The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the

2   request comprises a step of receiving the request through an intranet.

1   35.   The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the step of receiving the

2   request comprises a step of receiving a search query from the computer with the

3   search query specifying at least one search parameter for a desired search and the

4   method further comprises the steps of performing the desired search through the

5   storage and returning results of the desired search to the computer.

1   36.   The method as set forth in claim 35, further comprising a step of storing

2   a data entry in the storage for each message signal received.

1   37.   The method as set forth in claim 35, wherein the step of returning the

2   results comprises a step of returning a listing of all message signals contained within

3   the desired search.

1   38.   The method as set forth in claim 35, further comprising a step of saving

2   the results of the desired search in the storage.

1   39.   A computer-readable medium for storing software for use in storing

2 and delivering a message signal, the software for use in performing the steps of:

3   receiving an incoming call from a public switched telephone network, the

4 incoming call including the message signal;

5   storing the message signal in a storage medium;

6   receiving, at a hyper-text transfer protocol deamon, a request for the message

7 signal from the computer and forwarding the request to a network server;

8   forwarding at least a part of the message signal from the network server to the

9 hyper-text transfer protocol deamon; and

10   transmitting at least part of the message signal from the hyper-text transfer

11 protocol deamon to the computer

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